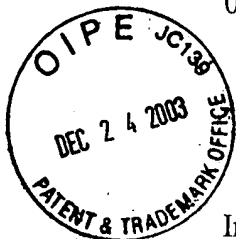


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PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

NOBUAKI FUKASAWA, et al.

Application No.: 09/624,384

Filed: July 27, 2000

For: PROCESSING METHOD OF  
DEVICE INFORMATION AND  
NETWORK DEVICE IN DEVICE  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT  
SYSTEM

Group Art Unit: 2758

2155 #5  
**RECEIVED**

DEC 29 2003

Technology Center 2100

December 23, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Rmett  
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each of the listed documents is also enclosed.

U.S. Patent No. 5,796,951  
U.S. Patent No. 5,491,796  
U.S. Patent No. 5,611,0504

J. Veizades, et al., "Service Location Protocol - RFC 2165", Internet Engineering Task Force, June 1997,  
<URL: <http://www.faqs.org/rfcs/rfc2165.html>> retrieved 12/18/2001.

These documents were cited during prosecution of a European patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the European Search Report dated September 25, 2003 is enclosed.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of the Form PTO-1449 and returning the initialed form to Applicants with the next communication.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 42,746

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